(*b*) Rs. 4,66,151 for the year 1939—40.

(*c*) 4·4 per cent on the booked capital of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway, viz., 105,65,085; the Edappalli-Harbour link had not been opened in March 1940.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, how far the Edappilli harbour link extends?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* From the point of the diversion to the bridge.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* As far as the expenses incurred by the South Indian Railway Co., for running this railway, may I know whether the Government have scrutinised as to the actual establishment charges as given in the Railway accounts to find out whether they get from the Government higher establishment charges?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* There are definite rules as to how the running expenditure should be calculated. There is a special formula for that evolved long ago and that formula is applied. That is how all the running expenses are calculated.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* From the bridge to the Harbour terminus is the line under the Port Trust Authorities?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyuni *(Trichur-South):* What will be the distance of the diversion line?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Four and odd miles.

Mr. C. R. Iyyuni *(Trichur-South):* May I know the percentage set apart for depreciation?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* No depreciation is set apart for railways.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I know how exactly the proportionate income is calculated f or 4 and odd miles?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* There is a very complicated formula and unless I have the text, I cannot explain it.

MADAYIKKONAM VILLAGE—IMPROVEMENT OF CHALS

197. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Government have enquired about the importance of improving Kokkara Chal, Mullam

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Chal, etc., in Madayikonam village as promised by the Government;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to inform this House the results of the enquiry;

(*c*) will the Government be kind enough to take up the matter immediately?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) The question has been referred to the Irrigation Advisory Board and their opinion in the matter is awaited.

(*b*) No answer is called for in view of the answer to question (*a*).

(*c*) A decision can be arrived at only when the opinion of the Irrigation Advisory Board is ascertained.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know whether the Government have realised that these are minor irrigation works?

Mr. V. K. Aravindakha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The area in question is part of Muriyad kayal and that comes under major irrigation works. This particular work is a small item of a large work.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will the Government be pleased to inquire into the matter and do the needful?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The question has been looked into and a report has been prepared and this report has been sent to the Irrigation Advisory Board. They are now considering this question.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Are the Government aware that these chiras are silted up and cannot contain water at all?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There has been some silting up in the chiras.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* It is because of these two chiras that there was a definite failure of crops last year. If a little money is spent on this account, it will greatly benefit the agriculturists.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* While some improvements to these chiras would be beneficial, I do not think that this work by itsef will give any appreciable benefit to the crops considered as a whole.

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